

Kansas Professional Engineer News

JANUARY 2024

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Winter Morning in Western Kansas


KANSAS PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEER NEWS


Publisher
Travis Lowe, CAE


Contact
825 S. Kansas Ave., Ste. 500
Topeka, KS 66612
(785) 233-2121
travis@kansasengineer.org


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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR KSPE PRESIDENT

by Kerrie L. Greenfelder, P.E., DBIA, BCEE, F.NSPE



In our last newsletter, I noted that the leaves were starting to turn colors and the temperatures were dropping, indicating Fall had arrived. As I write this today, big fluffy snowflakes are falling and the temps of late have been hovering around the freezing mark... Although I'm more of a "beach gal," it sure is pretty to watch through the windows from the comfort of my warm office, while sipping a cup of hot, peppermint tea!

So let me start off with a toast not just licensure, but to a new year! I hope that you were able to catch up with family and friends (and your favorite shows, movies, and sports?) over the holidays and are energized as we begin 2024.

Our KSPE leaders continue to bring the energy and have been busy filling the calendar of events for the first few months of this year. Engineers Week (or "E-Week") is just around the corner (officially February 18-24) and the schedule is chock-full of chapter meetings, STEM outreach activities, tours, and more to draw out our members and supporters every week. You don't want to miss out on the fun, learning, and networking; I hope to see you at an E-Week luncheon or event next month. And when I see you, tap me on the shoulder and let's get a selfie for social media!

On the State side, the first Practicing Engineers in Government (PEG) Seminar was held in Wichita in early December and attendees learned about navigating staffing challenges, working with AI, and heard updates on Wichita's lead and copper

programs, transit, and wastewater treatment facility upgrades. A second PEG seminar will be held in the Spring in the Kansas City area, as well as the KSPE/ACEC/KDHE Water Quality Seminar; watch your inbox for details.

Check the events page at kansasengineer.org regularly to see what's happening in your area and get ready to "click" register for the annual conference in June, where we're collaborating with our partner Society in Missouri. When you sign up, plan to bring a future member (or student!) with you, too!

At the leadership level, your Board of Directors is underway with six(!) strategic initiatives for our organization. We'd love a few more volunteers, so just message us if you want to help with:

- Membership growth
- Young professionals engagementConnecting with our members in the government sector
- Incorporating our members in academia
- Evolving our revenue and sponsorship programs
- Helping fill our leadership pipeline at every level across the State

Remember, this is OUR society, so help us shape it to meet the needs of our current and future members – help our members, help the profession, and help our organization!

Finally, in every issue this year I've put out these challenges to our members (below). How are YOU doing toward each?! Drop me a note with what you've been up to or how you've embraced these suggestions!

- **PROMOTE:** Talk about KSPE, promote the work we do, bring a friend or colleague to an event, encourage someone to join our organization, and recognize excellence across our industry with one of our prestigious awards!
- **OUTREACH:** Help grow the next generation, teach, pass along your skills, and mentor, mentor, mentor!
- **COMMUNICATE:** My door is always open and I hope you'll share your ideas with us on how KSPE can be even better than it is today! Email, text, or call me any time.

Like with every issue, I'll close with gratitude: THANK YOU to this year's Board and our volunteer leaders across each committee and interest group for your dedication and service. And to you, our membership, thank you for choosing KSPE!

PS I hope you've "followed" me or KSPE on social media and are reading my new "**Words of Wisdom Wednesdays**" posts! I've been collecting advice from our members, allies, and supporters during my Chapter Visits and they are a treasure trove of great advice! The "likes" are flowing in on LinkedIn, especially, so let me know what YOU think of them!

2023–2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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P.E., DBIA, BCEE,
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P.E., F.NSPE



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Mike Hoffman,
P.E.

Since 1910, the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers has represented all engineering disciplines and practices for the state's licensed professional engineers. We represent licensed professional engineers who practice in industry, construction, private practice, education, and government. The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers membership provides professional engineers with the resources and services needed to be better informed and better connected within the professional engineers in your community.

2023–2024 CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Eastern Chapter
Cody Porter, P.E.
[email](#)

High Plains Chapter
CW Harper, P.E.
[email](#)

Smoky Valley Chapter
Libby Lorensen, P.E.
[email](#)

Southeast Chapter
Norman Philipp, P.E.
[email](#)

Tri-Valley Chapter
Bill Heatherman, P.E.
[email](#)

Topeka Chapter
Michael Ingalls, P.E.
[email](#)

Wichita Chapter
Eric Glover, P.E. .
[email](#)

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HOW TO GIVE

What are you doing to support the profession that helped you take care of everyone else, including yourself? The time is now to “pay it forward” and say “thank you” to the engineering profession that helped make it possible to take care of all of the important areas of your life.

The Engineers' Foundation of Kansas needs your help to grow our support for Kansas STEM programs (such as MATHCOUNTS, Future City & Bridge Building), engineering licensure, and economic/workforce development.

Please consider contributing by filling out a [DONATION FORM](#). For more information, [email Greg Braden](#) at the EFK office or [go online](#).

**“Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference.”
-Kathy Calvin**

FOUNDATION REPORT

by Wayne Nelson, P.E., F.NSPE
EFK President

The Engineers' Foundation of Kansas (EFK), in conjunction with sponsorship from the University of Kansas School of Engineering & the Department of Civil, Environmental & Architectural Engineering (CEAE), will recognize Tom Mulinazzi, Ph.D., P.E., L.S. on April 12, 2024, at a luncheon at the Burge Union on the University of Kansas Lawrence Campus. Tom is being recognized for his lifetime commitment to engineering ethics and licensure.

Our goal is to recognize Tom by creating an EFK endowment of \$100,000.00. The "Tom Mulinazzi, Ph.D., P.E., L.S. University of Kansas Engineering Ethics/Licensure Fund" will be managed in partnership with the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation (GMCF). When fully funded, EFK expects to provide approximately \$4,000.00 annually for use by the KU School of Engineering to promote engineering ethics and licensure. We anticipate the funds being used to provide Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) practice exam sessions and study materials, provide test site equipment, pay exam fees, and otherwise promote ethics and the FE Exam.

Donations to the Tom Mulinazzi, Ph.D., P.E., L.S. EFK / GMCF Recognition Fund may be made online any time [HERE](#). You can help EFK receive a 50% matching fund by delaying your donation and contributing to the GMCF Grow Green Day on April 22, 2024.

Congratulations to Tom Mulinazzi for his lifetime commitment to engineering ethics and licensure!

Questions? Please contact:

Rick Ens, P.E., F.NSPE - 913-660-4849

Ozzy Bravo, P.E. - 602-614-9853

Tom Roberts, P.E., F.NSPE - 785-565-1286

Thank you to our volunteers and good luck to our Kansas students!

MATHCOUNTS®

Kansas 2024 Competition Dates

Eastern Chapter Competition

Overland Park • February 6, 2024

Smoky Valley/Tri-Valley Chapter Competition

Salina • February 10, 2024

Southeast Chapter Competition

Pittsburg • February 3, 2024

Topeka Chapter Competition

Topeka • February 3, 2024

Wichita Chapter Competition

Wichita • February 3, 2024

Kansas State Competition

Topeka • March 2, 2024

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2024 MATHCOUNTS

by David Johnson, P.E., LS
Kansas MATHCOUNTS Coordinator

The new year and rung in and among other things, we all know what that means...
MATHCOUNTS COMPETITIONS ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!!!
Competition dates and coordinators for the Kansas events follow:

Tuesday, February 6
Jewish Community Center
Eastern Chapter
Rachel Henkhaus

Saturday, February 3
Pittsburg State University
Southeast Chapter
Robin Philipp

Saturday, February 3
Washburn University
Topeka Chapter
Calvin Reed

Saturday, February 3
Wichita Collegiate School
Wichita Chapter
Jessica Rhein

Saturday, February 10
Kansas State University, Salina
Smoky & Tri-Valley Chapters
Jarred Green & Greg Fief

Saturday, March 2
Washburn University
State Competition
David Johnson

If you are able to volunteer to help, please contact one of the coordinators listed above. We are very thankful for volunteers and can always use more help with proctoring & grading the tests. However, as a bonus, this is also a great opportunity to have some fun and fellowship with fellow KSPE members and support these kids that hopefully will become tomorrow's engineers!

Winners from the local competitions will advance to the state competition on March 10 to be held once again at Washburn University. The top 4 students and coach from the state competition will advance to compete in the MATHCOUNTS National competition to be held in Washington DC in May.

Hope to see you at one of these events.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SMOKY VALLEY CHAPTER

Ryan Viers, Ei/EIT
TranSystems

Derek Vonada, P.E.
Sunflower Electric
Power Corp

TOPEKA CHAPTER

Jason Fundis, P.E.
Professional Engineering
Consultants, PA

Mark McClure, P.E.
KDHE

Gregory Schieber, P.E.
KDOT

Madison Schoemann, P.E.
Professional Engineering
Consultants, PA

WICHITA CHAPTER

Paul Cater, P.E.
Sedgwick County

Colin Costley, Ei/EIT
TranSystems

Macee Crowell, Ei/EIT
TranSystems

Dakota Leach, P.E.
MKEC Engineering Inc

Shivraj Patil P.E.
TranSystems

KSPE PRESIDENT VISITS & LEGISLATIVE EVENTS

KSPE President Kerrie Greenfelder, PE, DBIA, BCEE, FNSPE visited with Smoky Valley and Tri-Valley Chapter members on December 7, 2023 in Salina and Manhattan.

Kerrie provided state updates and focused on garnering advice from local members to share with our engineering students.

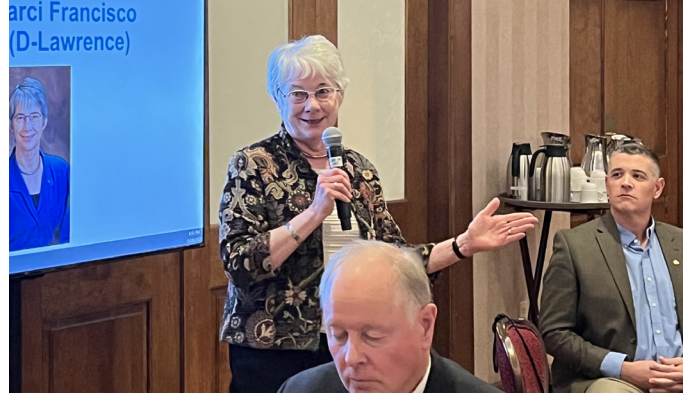
Local legislators also stopped by the events to discuss the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session with KSPE members. We thank the following legislators for taking the time to meet with their engineering constituents: Senators Elaine Bowers, J.R. Claeys, Usha Reddi, and Rick Wilborn and Representatives Francis Awerkamp, Sydney Carlin, Michael Dodson, Steven Howe, Clarke Sanders, Kenny Titus, and Barbara Wasinger.



KSPE PRESIDENT VISITS & LEGISLATIVE EVENTS CONT.

On November 29, 2023, the Topeka Chapter of KSPE held their annual legislative dinner at the Topeka Country Club. The program included remarks by KDOT Secretary Calvin Reed, P.E., a legislative briefing from the KSPE Executive Director, and introductions to local senators and representatives.

Thank you to the local legislative delegation for making this a great event with amazing discussion concerning engineering: Senators Brenda Dietrich, Rick Kloos, Marci Franciso and Representatives Francis Averkamp, Jesse Borjon, Ken Cobert, Ron Ellis, Kirk Haskins, Kyle McNorton, Vic Miller, and Virgil Weigel.





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STATE EVENTS

2024 WATER QUALITY SEMINAR

MAR 22, 2024 | 8:30 AM | TOPEKA, KS

2024 KC PEG SEMINAR

APR 4, 2024 | 8:00 AM | KANSAS CITY, MO

KSPE/MSPE 2024 JOINT CONFERENCE

JUN 5-7, 2024 | KANSAS CITY, MO

CHAPTER EVENTS

WICHITA CHAPTER

WSPE TRIVIA NIGHT

FEB 15, 2024 | 7:15 PM | WICHITA, KS

EASTERN CHAPTER

73RD ANNUAL ENGINEERS WEEK CELEBRATION

FEB 22, 2024 | 10:00 AM | KANSAS CITY, MO

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